(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to recheck the antecedents of new recruits in Defence forces in the past few years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Grounding of Sukhoi-30 Fighters

125. DR. ALLADI R RAJKUMAR:

SHRI RUMANDLA RAAMACHANDRAYYA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Sukhoi-30 fighter planes have been grounded on detection of 'nicks' in the engine blandes; and

(b) if so, the action taken to get the defective parts replaced free of cost by the manufacturers?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir. Sukhoi-30 fighter aircraft fleet has not been grounded on detection of "nicks" in the engine blades. However, in some Sukhoi-30 fighter engines defects were noticed during routine check up. These engines can be repaired.

(b) Russian specialists have inspected the defective engines. The repair of the routine/normal defects, covered under warranty, will be undertaken by the manufacturer. Those engines, which have completed warranty life, will be repaired at the cost of Ministry of Defence.

Occupation of defence land

126. SHRI MURLI DEORA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of private parties including Army Wives Welfare Association who have been occupying defence lands and have not got lease agreement renewed;

(b) the reasons therefor and loss caused thereby; and

(c) the action taken to rectify the error?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) the defence land has been allotted to private parties like Clubs, Institutes, Golf Courses, and schools including Army Wives Welfare Association etc., on lease/licence basis in the past. Defence lands are allotted to private parties at Cantonments/Military Stations located all over the country. Leases are renewed as per the terms and conditions of each lease. In some cases, after the expiry of period of lease, renewal agreements could not be made due to various reasons like the lessee not applying in time, dispute over rentals and breach of terms and conditions of the lease, etc. The question of any loss on this account does not appear to arise at this stage, since the arrears on account of rentals can be realized while granting the renewal or through due process of law, in the event of the renewal of lease not being accepted. As the defence lands are allotted to private parties at cantonments and military stations located all over the country, this information is not located at any central point. The time and effort spent in collecting this information would not be commensurate with the result sought to be achieved.

Multi Barrel Rocket Launcher

127. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR:

SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the

Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Defence Research and Development Organisation have the technology for production of Multi Barrel Rocket Launcher; and

(b) if so, the reasons for purchasing rocket launcher from Tata Group and not producing by DRDO?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and(b) Defence Research and Development Organisation hasindigenously developed the Multi Barrel Rocket System 'Pinaka' with many development partners from public and private sector. Tata Electric and Larson Tubro are the development partners for the launcher and command post vehicles. These development partners have expertise and infrastructure for production.